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STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its fifty-first session, the Commission on Human Rights took note of the action taken by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights towards the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights granting the right of individuals or groups to submit communications concerning non-compliance with the Covenant, as recommended by the World Conference on Human Rights, and requested the Committee to submit a report on the matter to its fifty-second session (resolution 1995/22, para. 10).

2. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights continued consideration of a draft optional protocol at its twelfth and thirteenth session (E/C.12/1995/SR.5 and 50). At its thirteenth session the Committee also decided to devote its "day of general discussion", to be held on 13 May 1996, to that topic with a view to finalizing its work on the draft optional protocol. The Committee invited representatives of States parties to participate in that discussion.

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